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Summary of stakeholders' submissions[1] on Finland*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 23 stakeholders' submissions[2] to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contributions by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. The Human Rights Centre Finland's National Human Rights Institution recommended to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances without further delay and to continue the efforts to ratify the ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries and in a constructive manner engage the Sami people in the ratification process.[3]

3. It also stressed to further strengthen co-operation and coordination in human rights issues within the Government by establishing human rights networks inside each ministry and ensure that independent human rights bodies are provided resources that measure up with their duties.[4]

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

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4. Among its recommendations, the Human Rights Centre suggested to allocate necessary resources for the implementation of the Second NAP on Fundamental and Human Rights and engage regional and local authorities in the design and in the implementation of the NAP.[5]

5. The Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution stressed to ensure the care of older persons and internal overseeing of the administration are sufficiently resourced and establish a legislative basis for the measures limiting the right to self-determination in the care of older persons.[6]

6. It encouraged to further improve the equality of transgender people by abolishing the requirement to be infertile as a condition for the legal recognition of gender reassignment.[7]

7. It urged to avoid detaining remand prisoners at police cells and hold them in remand prisons instead and ensure prisoners are provided with sufficient amount of activities outside their cells in all its prisons.[8]

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations[9] and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies

8. Amnesty International stated that since the second UPR in 2012, Finland has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Second and Third Optional Protocols to Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Finland has yet to ratify ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as committed to during the 2012 review.

9. Amnesty International regretted that despite accepting many recommendations relating to violence against women, sufficient resources have yet to be allocated to implement the Istanbul Convention.[10]

10. The Centre for Torture Survivors in Finland (CTSF) urged to launch a programme of action to effectively implement the Istanbul Protocol.[11]

B. National human rights framework

11. The Finnish Red Cross recommended that the Finnish government commits to maintaining and further improving its traditionally high standards with regard to respect for human rights and values in decision-making, legislative processes as well as policy considerations.[12]

12. The Finnish Red Cross further recommended that the Finnish government increasingly evaluates the human rights and humanitarian impact of legislative and policy changes already in the preparative phase.[13]

13. In the implementation of the recommendation 90. 22 of the second UPR Cycle to introduce human rights education as a mandatory part of teachers' training (Slovenia). FIDH welcomed the inclusion of human rights in the renewed National Core Curriculum for Basic Education (2014) and Upper Secondary School (2015). We are concerned, however, of the lack of resources within the Educational Board to systematically train and support teachers; the Government needs to ensure that all teachers at all levels of national

schooling system have sufficient competence in human rights education.[14]

14. Amnesty International called on the government of Finland to grant adequate human and financial resources to the Human Rights Centre, which is part of the National Human Rights Institution; complete a comprehensive and adequately resourced National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights and systematically assess the human rights impact of all bills, budget and policy proposals, and other government activities prior to their adoption.[15]

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Cross cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination[16]

15. In her statement submitted in 2011 to the UPR Working Group, the Ombudsman for Equality expressed her concern that there were no specific provisions in the Equality Act prohibiting discrimination based on gender reassignment. An improvement took place in this respect when the Equality Act was amended in 2015 with a provision prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression. The Equality Act was also amended with the inclusion of an obligation to the authorities, providers of education and employers to prevent discrimination against gender minorities. However, persons belonging to gender minorities still face diverse problems in the attainment of equality. The Ombudsman for Equality has been contacted in cases of suspected discrimination that concern, inter alia, labour market, education and services, but also in various questions related to the gender reassignment process.[17]

16. The Finnish Red Cross was concerned that especially racist and xenophobic attitudes have been growing and becoming harsher and more acceptable, especially on the Internet. A growth in aggressive hate speech and activity can be noted, and the social climate, in particular where it concerns immigration and asylum seekers, has clearly tightened. The hardening of attitudes is a serious threat to the social relations of inter-population groups. The Finnish Red Cross recommended that the Finnish government, together with relevant stakeholders, takes an active stand against hate speech and aggressive attitudes that are currently becoming increasingly mainstream.[18]

17. FIDH noted that during the previous (UPR) review, the government of Finland received many recommendations concerning racism and xenophobia and the government had launched several projects to prevent hate crimes and tackle racism. While such projects may be innovative, short-term projects are not an adequate response to a concerning situation. According to most recent reports, hate crimes have increased. Racism and islamophobia need to be recognised and tackled with a long-term commitment and systematic response at the highest political level.[19]

18. SETA and TRASEK noted that in the conclusions of the 2nd Cycle of UPR Finland approved recommendation (90.8) to increase its efforts in the field of discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, inter alia by review of national legislation and administration with a view to eliminate discrimination against LGBTI people with regard to family and parental rights and the right to security and integrity of the person. Since then the legal situation has improved mainly through the reform of the non-discrimination and equality legislation. In the Non-discrimination Act protection from discrimination on ground of sexual orientation has been extended to all areas of life. In the Act on Equality gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics are explicitly mentioned as non-discrimination grounds. The non-discrimination and equality ombuds

mandates cover explicitly sexual orientation (non-discrimination ombud), gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (equality ombud). The Finnish Parliament has passed legislation on same-sex marriage and same sex couples will be able to marry from 1st March 2017. However, issues such as legal gender recognition, physical integrity of intersex persons, family and parental rights, hate crime and violence against LGBTI people are largely unsolved and remain concerns.[20]

Human rights and counter-terrorism[21]

19. Amnesty International recommended to fully comply with the recommendations of the 2014 report on rendition and secret detention by the Parliamentary Ombudsman and implement measures to prevent future rendition flights; fully respect human rights obligations while countering terrorism and ensure surveillance laws limiting privacy are narrow in scope, clear and foreseeable and that surveillance is targeted, based on reasonable suspicion, strictly necessary to meet a legitimate aim and conducted in a non-discriminatory and proportionate manner.[22]

20. Amnesty International stressed to introduce safeguards against abuse and effective, independent and impartial oversight of intelligence activities, including parliamentary and judicial oversight.[23]

2. Civil and Political Rights

Right to life, liberty and security of the person[24]

21. CTSF reported that the Finnish State accepted the following recommendations relevant to victims of torture during the 2nd cycle of the UPR in September 2012. The Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment was duly ratified in 2014, and the Finnish Parliamentary Ombudsman was designated the National Preventative Mechanism.[25]

22. Amnesty International recommended to immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners held due to conscientious objection to military service; ensure civilian alternatives to military service are non-punitive and non-discriminatory in character and remain under civilian control.[26]

23. NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women's Associations informed that legislative changes are urgently needed in the Criminal Code, Chapter 20, Section 5, subsection 1. This section states that acts committed by someone in a position of authority or trust against a person in their custody or in relation to who they have a duty of care such as a patient in a hospital or other institution, or whose capacity to consent is impaired due to illness, handicap or other infirmity, are punishable under the crime of sexual abuse, and carry a minimum sentence of a fine.[27]

24. NYTKIS demanded effective and equal protection of persons who are residents in closed institutions (prisons, hospitals, institutions for people with intellectual disabilities). The NGOs call for change in law so that sexual acts committed in these settings or comparable circumstances (residential homes for disabled and elderly persons, rehabilitation institutions, hospitals) by persons in position of authority or trust against persons in their care should be treated as non-consensual sexual acts by definition. Such acts should be prosecuted and punished in the same way as other sexual offences in accordance with the gravity of the crime. In the current law, they are defined as sexual abuse and receive much milder punishment of a fine even when in fact they constitute rape. The NGOs also propose the addition of "in comparable situations" - the ground for this extension is the de-institutionalization process whereby many vulnerable persons have been rehoused in what is termed "open care" or "home-based care" where they can also may face sexual violence by care providers.[28]

25. NYTKIS stated that Finland is lacking 433 family places in shelters. Currently there are 19 shelters for victims of violence altogether (compared to 26 service providers earlier). 13 of the shelters are run by NGOs. There is only one secret shelter in Finland, Shelter Mona maintained by MONIKA - Multicultural Women's Association. The current state funding is not sufficient for maintaining adequate number and geographical coverage of shelters. There are large areas without a shelter. In the densely populated areas (e.g. capital city of Finland, Helsinki) the number of shelters is not sufficient. In 2015, more than 348 clients and their children were turned away by the Helsinki Shelter Association due to full capacity. Shelter Mona is also continually full. In 2015, approximately 180 women could not be provided with a place in a shelter due to lack of space.[29]

26. NYTKIS recommended that Finland increase state funding for shelter services in order to increase the number and geographical coverage of shelters for victims of violence. NYTKIS stressed that Finland needed more secret shelters to guarantee and further develop individual support for every child during a crisis due to violence, with particularly attention to vulnerable groups. Take into account the particular needs of minority and vulnerable groups (as defined in Istanbul Convention) in the development of shelter services guarantee and further develop individual support for every child during a crisis due to violence, with particularly attention to vulnerable groups and allocate and make state funding available for development of accessible shelters.[30]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[31]

27. SETA and Trasek recommended to ensure that the police, prosecutors, judges and lawyers have the necessary knowledge and skills to address hate crimes against LGBTI people by providing mandatory training and guidelines; to amend laws specific to hate crime and hate speech so that gender identity is explicitly included as a bias ground and to raise awareness about hate speech against LGBTI people and its harmful effects.[32]

28. ADF International recommended to ensure that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion is duly recognized and respected and to consider introducing legal provisions regulating and protecting the right to conscientious objection. ADF International also recommended to ensure that medical professionals have a right to object to participating in abortion and other procedures on the grounds of conscientious objection and that parents' right to choose education for their children and educate their children in accordance with their conviction is duly respected.[33]

29. The Union of Freethinkers of Finland and the Humanist Association of Finland stressed that religious ceremonies should not be part of the annual program of schools.[34]

Prohibition of all forms of slavery[35]

30. The FLHR has conducted research in co-operation with the European Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) about severe forms of labour exploitation of migrant workers in Finland. The research proves that victims of human trafficking or similar crimes are not always provided with adequate protection and assistance. Not all victims of severe labour exploitation have access to the national assistance system for victims of trafficking. Especially, if the type of crime changes during judicial proceedings to something other than human trafficking, the victim can be removed from the assistance system.[36]

3. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Right to education

31. Amnesty International recommended to make human rights education mandatory for all teacher trainees and include participation and practical skills for teacher trainees to enable them to respect human rights and inclusion when teaching and provide in-service training for all teachers to acquire the necessary skills in human rights education in order to

implement the requirements of the new national core curriculum for basic education.[37]

32. Council of Europe recommended that Finish authorities further strengthen education in Sámi, notably through the development of a structured policy and a long-term financing scheme; take urgent measures to protect and promote Inari and Skolt Sámi, which are particularly endangered languages, in particular by means of the provision of language nests on a permanent basis; take further measures to ensure the accessibility of social and health care in Swedish and Sámi; develop and implement innovative strategies for the training of Romani teachers, extend the production of teaching materials in Romani and increase the provision of teaching of Romani; and take measures to increase awareness and tolerance vis-à-vis the regional or minority languages of Finland, both in the general curriculum at all stages of education and in the media.[38]

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women

33. In line the UPR second cycle recommendation 89.14 to undertake further measures aimed at protection of women's rights, including prevention of violence (Ukraine) and recommendation 89.16. Take effective legal and practical measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children, in particular women and children with disabilities, immigrant and refugee women and children, and women and children from ethnic and religious minorities, especially Muslims and Roma (Iran); Joint Submission of the Finnish National Youth Council – Youth Cooperation Allianssi and the European Youth Forum (YFJ) recommended to prepare a national finance plan with allocated targets to combat violence and discrimination against women and provide access and financial aid to support services, such as, 24/7 helplines and walk-in services and strengthen cooperation between different government agencies and municipal administrations.[39]

34. The Ombudsman for Equality reiterated her concern expressed in her statement to the UPR Working Group from 2011 that discrimination on the basis of pregnancy and family leave continues to be a considerable concern in Finland. A major share of cases concerning the labour market brought to the attention of the Ombudsman concern suspicions of discrimination in connection with pregnancy and family leave.[40]

Children[41]

35. JS1 stressed that Finland needs to take active measures to make the obligations of the CRC as well as the Committee's recommendations and general comments widely known among children, their parents and all professionals and authorities working with children. Finland must also raise the awareness of the above-mentioned actors of children-related obligations arising from other human rights treaties.[42]

36. JS1 added that national best practice guidelines for informing families of their child's disability must be drafted to ensure that parents of children with disabilities receive high-quality information in an equal manner regardless of their place of residence. The position and needs of children with disabilities belonging to various minority groups require special attention.[43]

37. JS1 urged to increase research and data collection on various forms and modes of discrimination, hate speech and bullying concerning children in order to recognise them and take more effective preventive measures. Special focus needs to be on the online environment, of which children are an integral part.[44]

38. SETA and TRASEK recommended to provide teachers and other school staff further education regarding the tackling of homophobic and transphobic bullying and discriminatory practices. This should be included in the obligatory teacher training;ensure that young LGBTI people in schools and educational institutions receive necessary

information, protection and support to enable them to live in accordance with their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression inter alia by raising awareness of LGBTI people in the school welfare services and provide guidelines or toolkits to schools and educational institutions on including concerns of LGBTI pupils and staff in non-discrimination and equality plans.

Persons with disabilities[45]

39. The Finnish Disability Forum (Vammaisfoorumi ry / Handikappforum rf- FDF) highlighted that the human rights situation of persons with disabilities in Finland has received legislative improvements, through new Non-Discrimination Act and new bodies mandated to implement and monitor the CRPD. The national framework and independent structures are in place. Concern is raised over the adequate resourcing of key actors, including organisations representing persons with disabilities. The number of disability related cases being brought to Non-Discrimination and Equality tribunals is one indicator of rights infringements and lack of awareness among providers of goods and services about the significance of reasonable accommodations. Training of legal practitioners and the judiciary is crucial in this regard. Disability related discrimination in employment and education through lack of access and of reasonable accommodation is a growing phenomenon. For persons with intellectual disabilities, who have work placements in the open labour market, their work may not be considered as paid work covered by the labour law, but social activity under social welfare low remunerated and gives concern for exploitation.

40. Although more attention has started been paid to women with disabilities since clients in shelters have increased and accessibility has improved, not all of the currently operating shelters have free and easy access. Shelters are not as accessible as they should be, because the accessibility regulations have not been applied, nor has there been any consultation with accessibility experts from disability NGOs. State funding does not cover the investments made in renovations. Moreover, the shelters should be able to provide special attention and individual assistance to women with disabilities and elderly women taking into consideration their particular needs.[46]

Minorities and indigenous peoples[47]

41. The Council of Europe noted that despite the progress achieved, some issues continue to give rise to concern. Finland has not yet ratified ILO Convention No. 169 on Tribal and Indigenous Peoples in Independent Countries, although it informed ECRI of its intention to do so during the term of the current government. The Discrimination Monitoring Group does not monitor discrimination on grounds of colour, nationality or language. The National Discrimination Tribunal is not empowered to award compensation to victims of discrimination, which discourages them from lodging complaints with it, nor is this tribunal authorised to deal with cases of discrimination in employment or immigration matters. The Ombudsman for Minorities lacks the human and financial resources needed to duly perform her tasks and only has jurisdiction to deal with cases of discrimination on the ground of ethnic origin. The majority population's knowledge about the Sámi remains inadequate. Roma continue to suffer discrimination and racism in various fields, including education, employment and housing. Somalis are the least well-integrated group in the country and are the victims of racism, including racist violence, and of discrimination, inter alia, in employment. Russian-speakers are also victims of discrimination in the field of employment. The Aliens' Act contains discriminatory provisions, in particular Section 130, which considerably increases the risk of racial profiling of visible minorities.[48]

42. FIDH referred to the recommendations 89.8 and 89.28 from the second UPR cycle and informed that since the previous report, the policies of the government of Finland regarding the Sami people have moved in a problematic direction. Ratifying the ILO

Convention 169 failed under the previous Government, and the current government did not include ratification in its Strategic Program. In other legislation, notably the new (March 2016) Finnish Forest and Park Enterprise Act, the provisions on protecting the rights of the Sami people were removed.[49]

43. NYTKIS noted that there was a serious lack of data on violence against women among many minority groups in Finland, and there is for example no information available on violence against women among LBT women and Sámi women. Since 2007, no research has been conducted on the prevalence of violence against migrant women in Finland. Only tracking statistics, collected by the organizations providing assistance to women victims of violence, are available. The lack of information often leads to insufficient support systems and prevention programs. There is a need for targeted services in order to increase access for women from minority groups.[50]

44. The Sami Parliament (Sámediggi, Sämitigge, Sää´mte´ǧǧ) recommended inter alia to introduce reforms as necessary to strengthen the self-governance and decision-making power of the Sami Parliament, including land rights, to introduce procedures for consultations between state authorities and the Sami Parliament based on the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to ratify ILO Convention No. 169, to clarify and legally protect Sami rights to land, water, resources and livelihoods, to ensure the fundamental safeguards and rights are included in the Forestry Act, to include rights of the Sami in the Tenojoki Agreement and to recognize and introduce special protection for the Sami Reindeer Husbandry.[51]

Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[52]

45. The Finnish Red Cross noted with concern recent and ongoing legislative changes relating to the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. In recent years, migration has been approached increasingly as a security – or economic question, and human rights considerations have seemed somewhat secondary in this context. Large scale migration during 2015, that saw the numbers of refugees and asylum seekers in Finland ten-fold, have accentuated the course of this development.[53]

46. Legislative changes in such areas as the right of asylum seekers to legal aid, family reunification, social security, conditions of reception or detention of migrants have mainly aimed at reducing the costs of immigration with too little concern for upholding the high level of protection and dignity of the persons concerned. The problem is further impacted by the fact that different thematic areas are often prepared by different authorities, and without due consideration for their mutual cross-impact. For example, the downscaling of consulate services by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has had a significant impact on the possibilities of family members to apply for family reunification. The Finnish Red Cross considers that adequate processes and means for monitoring and evaluation of the impact of these various changes as a whole should be provided for.[54]

47. CTSF recommended that victims of torture who seek asylum have practical access to NGOs offering rehabilitation services. This means that torture victims should not be relocated to remote areas of Finland, where these services do not exist. The Finnish State should ensure that doctors, nurses and psychologists in the public health system are adequately trained in treating traumatised refugees.[55]

48. The Finnish Red Cross was especially concerned about the changes made to the policies and legislation on family reunification of refugees, as the possibility of family reunification has become increasingly difficult in recent years. The inquiries and need for support addressed to the Red Cross have increased significantly. Latest amendments to family reunification criteria came into force on 1st of July 2016. Changes in Finnish Alien's Act mean, among others, that issuing a residence permit for family member requires e.g. that the applicant has secure means of subsistence. Family members of beneficiaries of international protection have previously been an exception. As from 1 July, this exception

does not apply. As a result of various changes as well as numerous difficulties in the process, those who would have a legitimate right for family reunification are unable to implement that right. The Finnish Red Cross stresses the importance of evaluating how legislative and administrative changes have effectively impacted the realization of the right to family reunification and integration.[56]

49. NYTKIS stated that in Finland there was not enough training provided to the law-enforcement authorities on an ongoing basis to build their capacity to understand the specific circumstances of migrant women who experience violence. There is not enough training in how to handle such cases in a sensitive manner, particularly in relation to 'honour'-related violence and FGM, and provide the necessary information, protection and support to the victims, including referrals to appropriate assistance and support services. The special needs of migrant women and children should be taken into account in all work and service planning for prevention of VAW. In order to provide better protection and assistance to migrant victims financial resources for the services are required as well as ongoing capacity building of the personnel and guidance on how to identify violence and make appropriate interventions. It is also important that information and services are provided in different languages. Finland needed to establish a network of walk-in-centers to guarantee service to all victims of VAW, including the most vulnerable groups (for example "paperless" migrants and refugees).[57]

50. In line with recommendation 89.50 from the UPR second cycle to give more attention to asylum-seekers and unaccompanied minors in cases of family reunion (Iraq) YFJ recommended to exclude underage children and youth under international protection, who are applying for family reunification, from secure income requirements and plan and implement an electronic submission system for family reunifications as soon as possible to protect the rights of applicants who are unable to access Finnish embassies due to visa problems and ensure that the treatment of all family reunification applications submitted by children and youth comply with the requirements set by UN Convention on the Rights of Child, especially with regards to Article 2(1) and Article 10 (1).[58]

Notes

[1] Prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21.

[2] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.

Civil Society

Individual submissions:

ADF	ADF International Geneva, Switzerland;
AI	Amnesty International London, UK;
Alliansi	Helsinki , Finland;
CTSF	HDL/Kidutettujen kuntoutuskeskus;
FDF	Vammaisfoorumi ry, Helsinki, Finland;
FRC	Suomen Punainen Risti, Helsinki, Finland;
NYTKIS	Naisjärjestöt Yhteistyössä NYTKIS ry, Helsinki, Finland;
FIDH	International Federation for Human Rights, France;
SamiC	Sámiráđđi, Kárášjohka/Karasjok, Norway;
SK	Saamelaiskäräjät, Inari, Norway;
Suomen UNICEF ry	Suomen UNICEF ry, Helsinki, Finland;
The Centre	Ihmisoikeuskeskus, Helsinki, Finland;
Väestöliitto	Väestöliitto, Helsinki, Finland;
Vapaa-ajattelijain Liitto ry	Helsinki, Finland.

Joint submissions:

JS1	Central Union for Child Welfare, The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare, Save the Children Finland.

National human rights institution(s):

NHRC	National Human Rights Center, Helsinki, Finland;
OfE	Ombudsman for Equality.

Regional intergovernmental organization(s):

CoE	The Council of Europe, Strasbourg (France);
EU FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Vienna (Austria).

[3] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[4] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[5] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[6] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[7] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[8] Submission from the the Human Rights Centre/ Finland's National Human Rights Institution.
[9] The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD;
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

[10] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[11] Centre for Torture Survivors in Finland (CTSF) submission for the UPR 3RD Cycle.
[12] Finish Red Cross (1).
[13] Finish Red Cross (1).
[14] FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights) and its member organisation the Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) submission for the 3rd UPR cycle.
[15] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[16] For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/21/8, paras89.14 to 89.25, 90.2 to 90.8.
[17] Submission from the Ombudsman for Equality.
[18] Finish Red Cross (1).
[19] FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights) and its member organisation the Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) submission for the 3rd UPR cycle.
[20] SETA and TRASEK submission for the 3rd UPR Cycle.

[21] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 90.26.
[22] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[23] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[24] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.29 to 89.32 and 90.24.
[25] Centre for Torture Survivors in Finland (CTSF) submission for the UPR 3RD Cycle.
[26] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[27] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[28] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[29] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[30] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[31] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.39-89.40.
[32] SETA and TRASEK submission for the 3rd UPR Cycle.
[33] ADF International.
[34] The Union of Freethinkers of Finland and the Humanist Association of Finland submission for the UPR 3rd cycle.
[35] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.33-89-34.
[36] FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights) and its member organisation the Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) submission for the 3rd UPR cycle.
[37] Amnesty International submission for the UPR.
[38] Council of Europe contribution for the 27th UPR session.
[39] Joint Submission of the Finnish National Youth Council – Youth Cooperation Allianssi and the European Youth Forum (YJF).
[40] Submission from the Ombudsman for Equality.
[41] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.26, 89.55 and 90.21.
[42] Joint Submission 1 (Central Union for Child Welfare, The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare, Save the Children Finland).
[43] Joint Submission 1.
[44] Joint Submission 1.
[45] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 90.23.
[46] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[47] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.24 and 89.25.
[48] Council of Europe contribution for the 27th UPR session.
[49] FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights) and its member organisation the Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) submission for the 3rd UPR cycle.
[50] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[51] Individual submission from the Sami Parliament of Finland.
[52] For relevant recommendations see .A/HRC/21/8 para 89.47 to 89.50.
[53] Finish Red Cross (1).
[54] Finish Red Cross (1).
[55] Centre for Torture Survivors in Finland (CTSF) submission for the UPR 3RD Cycle.
[56] Finish Red Cross (1).
[57] NYTKIS - The Coalition of Finnish Women´s Associations.
[58] Joint Submission of the Finnish National Youth Council – Youth Cooperation Allianssi and the European Youth Forum (YJF).